

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

39. (Currently Amended) A washing method in a ~~steam-injection~~ washing machine having a cabinet, a wash tub located in the cabinet, and a wash drum located in the wash tub, the method comprising:

supplying wash water to the wash tub from a water source;

tumbling laundry in the wash drum by rotating the wash drum when wash water is in the wash tub;

supplying water into a steam generator located in the cabinet through a water supply line that is connected to the water source and includes a valve to open and close the water supply line, wherein the water in the steam generator is separate from the wash water in the wash tub;

generating steam by ~~a the steam generator located in the cabinet~~; and

injecting-supplying the generated steam generated by the steam generator into the wash tub at a top through a steam supply line that is independent of the water supply line, the steam supply line extending downward from the steam generator and being in communication with the wash tub at an upper portion of the wash tub, while tumbling the laundry.

40. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 39, wherein supplying wash water includes:

supplying wash water into the wash tub to a first water level;

wetting laundry with the wash water; and

supplying wash water into the wash tub to a second water level;

41. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 39, wherein generating steam includes:

supplying water into the steam generator provided with a heater; and

heating the water supplied into the steam generator by operating the heater.

42. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein the water supplied into the steam generator is limited to a predetermined water level.

43. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein supplying water into the steam generator is performed while wash water is supplied to the wash tub.

44. (Currently Amended) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein supplying water into the steam generator includes simultaneously opening ~~a~~the water supply line adapted to guide water into the steam generator and ~~a~~the steam supply line adapted to guide steam from the steam generator.

45. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein supplying water into the steam generator includes resupplying water into the steam generator when a temperature of the steam generator reaches a predetermined temperature.

46. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein the operation of the heater is stopped when a pressure of the steam generator reaches a predetermined pressure.

47. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 46, wherein injecting the generated steam is performed when the operation of the heater is stopped.

48. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein the heater is operated for a predetermined operating time.

49. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein injecting the generated steam is performed when a temperature of the steam generator reaches a predetermined temperature.

50. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 41, wherein injecting the generated steam is stopped when a temperature of the wash water in the wash tub reaches a predetermined temperature.

51. (Currently Amended) ~~A washing method in a steam injection washing machine having a cabinet, a wash tub located in the cabinet, and a wash drum located in the wash tub, the method comprising:~~

~~supplying wash water to laundry located in the wash drum;~~

~~The washing method according to claim 39, further comprising spraying wash water from a bottom portion of the wash tub into the wash tub;~~

~~tumbling laundry located in the wash drum by rotating the wash drum;~~

~~supplying water into a steam generator located in the cabinet to generate steam; and~~

~~injecting the generated steam into the wash tub at a top portion of the wash tub while tumbling the laundry.~~

52. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 51, wherein supplying wash water and spraying wash water are repeated at least once.

53. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 51, wherein the steam generator includes a heater, and the method includes heating the supplied water by operating the heater.

54. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 53, wherein the water supplied into the steam generator is limited to a predetermined water level.

55. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 53, wherein supplying water into the steam generator includes resupplying water into the steam generator when a temperature of the steam generator reaches a predetermined temperature.

56. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 53, wherein the heater is operated for a predetermined operating time.

57. (Currently Amended) A washing method in a ~~steam-injection~~-washing machine having a cabinet, a door connected to the cabinet at a front of the washing machine, a wash tub located in the cabinet, a wash drum located in the wash tub, the method comprising:

supplying wash water to the wash tub from a water source;

tumbling laundry by rotating the wash drum when wash water is in the wash tub;

supplying water into a steam generator located ~~in-between~~ the cabinet and the wash tub through the water supply line that is connected to the water source and includes a valve to open and close the water supply line, wherein the water in the steam generator is separate from the wash water in the wash tub, the steam generator being located above the wash tub;

generating steam by the steam generator from the supplied water; and

~~injecting-supplying~~ the generated steam into the wash tub through a steam supply line that is independent of the water supply line, the steam supply line extending forward toward the front of the washing machine and then downward toward the wash tub, the steam supply line being in communication with the wash tub at an upper portion of the wash tub, to impinge on the laundry while tumbling the laundry.

58. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 57, wherein supplying wash water includes:

supplying wash water into the wash tub to a first water level;

wetting laundry with the wash water; and

supplying wash water into the wash tub to a second water level;

59. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 57, wherein generating steam includes heating the water supplied into the steam generator by operating a heater in the steam generator.

60. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 59, wherein the water supplied into the steam generator is limited to a predetermined water level.

61. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 59, wherein supplying water into the steam generator includes resupplying water into the steam generator when a temperature of the steam generator reaches a predetermined temperature.

62. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 59, wherein the heater is operated for a predetermined operating time.

63. (Currently Amended) ~~A washing method in a steam injection washing machine having a cabinet, a wash tub located in the cabinet, and a wash drum located in the wash tub, the method comprising:~~

~~supplying wash water to laundry located in the wash drum;~~

The washing method according to claim 57, further comprising spraying wash water from a bottom portion of the wash tub into the wash ~~tub~~; tub.

~~tumbling laundry located in the wash drum by rotating the wash drum;~~

~~supplying water into a steam generator located in the cabinet to generate steam; and~~

~~injecting the generated steam into the wash drum at a top portion of the wash drum to impinge on the clothes while tumbling the laundry.~~

64. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 63, wherein supplying wash water supplying and spraying wash water are repeated at least once.

65. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 63, wherein the steam generator includes a heater, and the method includes heating the supplied water by operating the heater.

66. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 65, wherein the water supplied into the steam generator is limited to a predetermined water level.

67. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 65, wherein the water supplying comprises resupplying water into the steam generator when a temperature of the steam generator reaches a predetermined temperature.

68. (Previously Presented) The washing method according to claim 65, wherein the heater is operated for a predetermined operating time.